

Our reference:
MJB/jad



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Head of Plant and Crop Sciences Division:

Professor Jerry Roberts

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

11 August 2010

Dear Sir / Madam

Ref Prof Javed Mirza

I am providing a reference letter for Professor Javed Mirza.

Professor Mirza joined my lab as a visiting research scientist In October 2009 until June 2010. During this period he characterised a number of very interesting mutants he had originally isolated in Pakistan. These included mutants exhibiting altered seed dormancy, root development and floral organogenesis.

Since his return to Pakistan, Professor Mirza is continuing to collaborate with members of my group and several of my colleagues who are further characterising these mutants, with the ultimate aim to identify the molecular basis for their defects.

In summary, Professor Mirza is an excellent researcher and a valued collaborator.

Yours faithfully

Professor Malcolm Bennett
Plant & Crop Sciences





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Director of Crop Science:
Professor M J Holdsworth

January 27, 2011

To Whom it may concern.

Dr Javed I. Mirza and I are engaged in collaborative research in relation to defining the molecular genetics of *Spermine Resistant 2 (SPR2)* an Arabidopsis mutant defective in seed germination. We are very interested in this mutant as it shows a highly novel phenotype of vivipary AND desiccation tolerance, we hope to clone this gene, that we think will be a unique resource for seed and abiotic stress biology, that could ultimately be used in marker assisted breeding of crops for drought tolerance and increased seed quality.

Sincerely,

Michael Holdsworth

michael.Holdsworth@nottingham.ac.uk

RE: Reference letter

Monday, January 24, 2011 7:40 AM

From: "Zinnia Gonzalez-Carranza" Zinnia.Gonzalez-Carranza@nottingham.ac.uk

To: "Javed Mirza" <jimirza@yahoo.com>

From: "Zinnia Gonzalez-Carranza" Zinnia.Gonzalez-Carranza@nottingham.ac.uk

To whom it may concern,

If the results from our crosses show this mutant is dehiscence related, mapping will be carried out. The potential of identifying a mutant that does not open its valves could be applied to crops of commercial interest.

Dr. Zinnia H. Gonzalez-Carranza

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Sabbatical Certificate for Dr. Javed Mirza

2 February 2001

To whom it may concern:

Dr. Javed Mirza was a research colleague in my laboratory for the year from August 1999 to August 2000. He was funded by a Fulbright fellowship to work as a sabbatical visitor with me, here in the Botany Department of the University of Georgia. His official position here was as a Visiting Professor.

While he was here, Dr. Mirza worked hard on several research projects concerning Arabidopsis mutants involved with polyamine metabolism. He characterized some mutants that he had previously isolated, and he worked on the genetic mapping of a mutant that we had isolated in my laboratory. The research that he performed here should be published in the near future, as part of our characterization of the genetics of polyamine synthesis. As such, Dr. Mirza made a valuable contribution both to my laboratory's research efforts and also towards our understanding of this particular aspect of plant physiology and development. Dr. Mirza was able to learn some new laboratory techniques during his sabbatical tenure, becoming particularly skilled at the PCR reaction, which is one of the most important methods in molecular biology today. Dr. Mirza further attended the 11th international Arabidopsis meeting, held in Madison, Wisconsin, as part of his sabbatical experience. At this meeting Dr. Mirza presented a poster describing his research, and was able to discuss his research with some of the leaders of the Arabidopsis genetics community of scientists.

Thus Dr. Mirza made both a research contribution, and also learned some new experimental methods, during his sabbatical tenure. We all enjoyed having him here. Please let me know if I can answer any questions about this Sabbatical visit.

Russell L. Malmberg
Professor of Botany and Genetics
Director, University of Georgia Plant Center
Botany Department
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-7271, U.S.A.



**OFFICE OF THE DEAN
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE
BAHAUDDIN ZAKARIYA UNIVERSITY, MULTAN, PAKISTAN**

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No. Dean, Sci & Agri-705

Dated: 31-07-2009

REFERENCE FOR DR. JAVED IQBAL MIRZA

It is a pleasure for me to write this reference letter for Dr. Javed Iqbal Mirza in the capacity of his immediate senior. I have known Dr. Mirza as a colleague since 1984 when he joined Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan. Dr. Mirza was working as Professor of Botany and Director Institute of Pure and Applied Biology before availing Leave Prior Retirement (LPR) from 24th April 2009.

Dr. Mirza got his M.Sc. after Honors (Botany) from the University of Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan in 1973 and Ph.D. (Genetics) from the University of Aberdeen, UK in 1983. He has post doctorates from University of Bologna, Italy, 1989 and University of Georgia, USA, 2000. Dr Mirza made several outstanding contributions during his service in this university. He has an impressive research record that is apparent from his publications. The area of his specialization is Plant Developmental Biology. He has isolated several mutants of the model plant Arabidopsis that are affected in various aspects of plant development. The novel mutants can increase our understanding of the developmental processes affected and the genes involved. Dr Mirza secured research grant from the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and successfully completed a number of research projects. He has supervised several postgraduates including three Ph.D. students.

Dr. Mirza successfully organized two mega events as coordinator of the "27th Pakistan Congress of Zoology (International)" and "National Symposium on Modern Trends and Approaches in Microbiology" held at B. Z. University on February 27-March 01, 2007 and January 21, 2009, respectively.

Dr. Mirza is an inspiring teacher with long experience of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. He was nominated for "Best University Teacher Award" for the year 2008 by Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.

As director Institute of Pure and Applied Biology, Dr. Mirza has shown administrative and management qualities. He led the vibrant institute towards excellence in teaching, research and general support for the students.

Dr. Mirza is a friendly person and can work well on his own or in a group.

I have my best wishes for his future endeavor.


31.07.09

Professor Dr. Shahida B. Niazi
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DEAN
Faculty of Science & Agriculture
Bahauddin Zakariya University
Multan (Pakistan)



BAHAUDDIN ZAKARIYA UNIVERSITY MULTAN

Dr. Muhammad Zafarullah

MBA (IBA Karachi), MBA (Edinburgh), Ph.D. (Strathclyde) UK

Vice-Chancellor

No. VC.27/1-09/217

Dated: 05-08-2009

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dr. Javed Iqbal Mirza joined this university as Lecturer in Botany, Institute of Pure and Applied Biology in September 1984. Since then he has been working in various capacities. Dr. Mirza was appointed as Professor of Botany in 2000 and Director Institute of Pure and Applied Biology in 2006. At present he is on Leave Prior to Retirement with effect from April 24, 2009.

I can comment on Dr. Mirza's academic capabilities as a teacher, researcher and administrator. He is a dedicated and hardworking teacher with long undergraduate and postgraduate experience. He has a remarkable research record that is evident from his publications. Dr. Mirza successfully completed eight research projects including research grants from the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Trieste, Italy. He has been actively involved in supervising post graduate and Ph.D. level research. Three of his students have completed Ph.D. Dr. Mirza's laboratory at BZU has produced several developmental mutants of the important plant Arabidopsis. The mutants are expected to increase our understanding of the developmental processes affected and the knowledge gained can be used for improvement of crop plants. Dr Mirza was coordinator of the "27th Pakistan Congress of Zoology (International)" held on February 27 to March 01, 2007 and "National Symposium on Modern Trends and Approaches in Microbiology" held on January 21, 2009 at Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan. Both the events were great success. Dr. Mirza participated in various management committees of the university. As director Institute of Pure and Applied Biology, he promoted an academic/research environment supportive for the students and faculty.

To his credit, Dr. Mirza has been awarded "Best University Teacher for the year 2008" by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.


(Dr. Muhammad Zafarullah)
Vice Chancellor,
Bahauddin Zakariya University,
MULTAN.